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are divided, you have the opportunity to open again, if you wish to.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. I'll just briefly discuss LB 446, which is the original...or, excuse me, is the sole component of the first committee amendment. So we are...in this division, we are talking about LB 446, that was introduced by Senator Jensen and supported by the medical community. And LB 446 would establish the Patient Safety Improvement Act. I'll just read briefly what the act does. The purpose of the act is to encourage patient safety in the medical industry through the reporting of incidents of adverse health events and near misses to patient safety coalitions that oversee the information. The bill provides legal protection to providers and facilities that will allow them to review health information and collaborate on the improvement of patient safety, without that becoming an additional avenue for discovery in a lawsuit. The bill does not change current avenues available to patients for legal redress. The committee amendment, which is reflected in this first division, does the following things. It amends the definition of the "patient safety work product." It explains the patient safety work product shall not be offered in the presence of a jury or other fact finder. It adds the Nebraska Academy of Physician Assistants to the Board of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety. It provides immunity for any provider furnishing services to a patient safety organization. It clarifies that any person attending a meeting of the patient safety organization shall not disclose the actions, decisions, proceedings, discussions, or deliberations that occur at the meeting, and provides a penalty if those individuals do so. Basically, in a nutshell, what the bill does, it allows for the sharing of information by a provider to the patient safety organization on accidents or near misses that a hospital or provider may have had. The commission will then take this information and come up with procedures, processes designed to improve the medical community's actions. And if someone received a...perhaps was operated on the wrong body part or received a transfusion inappropriately, that information would be disclosed in confidence to the patient safety organization, who would then take that information and come up with a process by which Nebraskans would...who receive healthcare, would do it